

PATENT  
2936-0145P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MATSUMOTO, Yukimichi et al.  
Appl. No.: New Group:  
Filed: January 18, 2002 Examiner:  
For: VACUUM CLEANER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
(SUBMISSION CONCURRENT WITH THE  
FILING OF A NEW PATENT APPLICATION)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

January 18, 2002

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

This application is a National Phase of a PCT application. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should be forwarded from the International Search Authority. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE  
(check at least one box)

a.  **DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

The attached patents, publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

b.  **DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

c.  **ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT**

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).

d.  **OTHER**

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

10/031383

1013 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 JAN 2002

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FEES

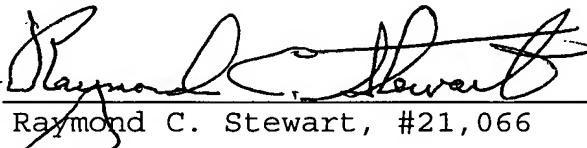
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a new patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

If The Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By   
Raymond C. Stewart, #21,066

RCS/cqc  
2936-0145P

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000

Enclosures:  Form PTO-1449(s)  
 Documents  
 Foreign Search Report  
 Fee  
 Other: International Search Report

(Rev. 10/31/01)

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